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#16 3-22-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Samuel H. Christie
Serial No. 09/102,016
Filed: 06/22/1998
For: **TREATMENTS IN A DISTRIBUTED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

Examiner: Boakye, A
Art Unit: 2663

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

DECLARATION UNDER RULE 37 CFR 1.131

1. My name is Samuel H. Christie, and I am the inventor of the above-styled patent application.

2. I originally conceived of the invention underlying the above-styled patent application at least as early as 12 August 1997.

3. Attached hereto is a true copy of the original invention disclosure document I submitted to my employer, the assignee of the present application, showing a date of 12 August 1997. This invention disclosure document fully supports the claimed invention.

4. Subsequently, with due diligence, in accordance with the internal patent procedures of my employer, a patent application was prepared and filed on 22 June 1998.

5. On November 5, 2001, an office action was mailed rejecting the claims of the above-identified application in light of U.S. Patent No. 6,055,305, which was filed December 16, 1997 and issued April 25, 2000. The filing date for the above-identified patent application was June 22, 1998. Accordingly, the 6,055,305 patent has an effective filing date less than one year prior

to that of the above-identified application, after conception of the present invention, and does not claim the same patentable invention.

6. I hereby declare that all declarations made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 if Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Samuel H. Christie

March 21, 2002
Date

Invention disclosure submission

Complete all sections and send to the Nortel Patent Dept at:
OTTAWA, Canada: Patent Dept., 0265, NTPAT
or HARLOW, UK: Patent Dept., HAL05
or RICHARDSON, USA: Patent Dept., Mail Stop C-0419, RICH1

NORTEL
NORTHERN TELECOM

Patent Dept. Use
No.
Rec'd. 12 Aug 97
Attny/Agent RN-1105

Invention Title
Providing Treatments in a Distributed Communications System

Correspondence will be directed to the first-named inventor only.

(1) Full legal name of first inventor (include middle initial)	Residence address and post office address if different
Samuel Henry Christie, IV **Name usually known as:** Sam **Global ID** 1111235	309 Trappers Run Drive Cary, NC 27513

Phone	Location	Department	Mailstop	Occupation	Fax
294-7244	RTP 35DD	3150	808043	Senior Advisor	294-7592

Signature	Date	Citizen of
		USA

For more inventors, use page 4 and check this box ☐

(2) Name of supervisor or divisional head	(6) Which LOB funded this invention?
Pamela Andrews **Name of AVP Reported to:** Dave Sliter	Public Carrier Networks
Signature / **Date**	**If Core Technology, please indicate which group.** Please Make a Selection

Technical field
Distributed Switching

(3) Date and details of first use or first public disclosure (past or future).	Key words for searching
This concept is included in a draft response to Bell South scheduled for disclosure (potentially under non-disclosure agreement) in August 1997	treatment distributed switching

(4) Which products will use this invention?	(7) Is the invention relevant to a Standards activity?
DMS-100 Internet Protocol Local Loop Other products such as DMS and Meridian could use this idea as well.	no **If so give details:** This concept should be pursued as part of the H.323 suite of standards.
(5) Does this invention arise from any arrangement involving any external organization? yes Organization Contract no.	**(8) Internal Project nos. under which this invention was funded** 13088

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

(a) Brief description of the invention

A mechanism for minimizng network resource utilization while providing treatment information content.

(b) What is the problem solved by the invention?

When a network user dials a number which is not in service or encounters other errors in establishing a telephone call, the network provides a release message with a cause value and connects the bearer channel to a recorded audio message which begins with a special information tone sequence and procedes to describe, in english, the error condition. This mechanism limits the user indication to spoken information in the language of the network provider and requires a bearer channel connection to the control point identifying the error. In many cases, this occuples trancontinental trunk channels.

This invention defines a mechanism for supporting audio information in the language of the customer while at the same time removing reliance on network trunks for the duration of the pre-recorded audio.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION cont.

(c) What other solutions have been tried and why didn't they work?

The SS7 signaling system starts to address this problem by supplying the cause value and supporting locally provided bearer channel indications for some situations. This may be considered prior art which makes this proposal obvious; however, legal obviousness isn't obvious.

(d) What are the specific elements or steps that solved the problem and how do they do it?

By signalling a server address (or set of them), look-up keys, (and potentially a version identifier), this system allows ther serving office or end-user terminal to presetnt the proper indication. Since the indications is clearly identified, it guarantees that the end user will get the intended indication. The server can provide text or audio forms in multiple languages. The serving end-office or client terminal presenting the indication can cache the indication content. Together this represents both improved customer service and reduced administration and network traffic costs for the operator.

As disctinct from SS7, I am proposing a set of central servers for the management of treatment content and automated caching of the treatments at the end offices or terminals. Further, I am suggesting adding a text form of the treatment and supporting multiple languages. I am unsure whether ISUP supports subscriber language based indications.

(e) What is the commercial value of the invention to Nortel and Nortel's major competitors? (see guidelines)

This solution can provide network operational cost savings and better customer service in that the user will receive a message in their subscribed language and format.

No.

(1) Full legal name of 2nd inventor (include middle initial)				Residence address (and post office address if different)	
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Signature		Date		Citizen of	

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